

# UPDATE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



**Stay informed. Take precautions. Stay safe.**

Dear Members,

On Friday, March 27th, Massachusetts Health and Human Services Secretary Sudders announced steps to establish dedicated COVID-19 recovery skilled nursing facilities in Massachusetts to “ensure capacity at acute care hospitals to address the anticipated surge in demand over the coming weeks.” Please [click here to read the full announcement](#).

Below, is a statement in support of Secretary Sudders' announcement from Brian Doherty, Mass-ALA President and CEO.

*March 30, 2020*

## **Statement from the Massachusetts Assisted Living Association President and CEO Brian Doherty on Dedicated COVID-19 Recovery Skilled Nursing Facilities**

“The Massachusetts Assisted Living Association (Mass-ALA) offers our gratitude to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for developing and implementing a plan to create dedicated COVID-19 recovery skilled nursing facilities. This effort, made possible through an initial partnership with SALMON Health & Retirement’s Beaumont at Worcester campus, will help ensure COVID-19 patients receive the care they need while creating space in hospitals facing an influx of critically ill patients. Importantly, the effort is also intended to keep COVID-19 patients separate from healthy nursing home residents, who are particularly vulnerable to the virus and who would be at higher risk without this partnership.

This is without a doubt a very difficult time for senior care communities -- residents, families, and staff. In her letter announcing the new effort, Massachusetts Health & Human Services Secretary Marylou Sudders underscores the Commonwealth’s appreciation for ‘the incredible efforts being made by all of the staff and caregivers who have stepped up in an unprecedented way to meet the needs of our most vulnerable residents during this emergency.’ We echo this thanks to residents and families in all senior care environments for their patience and resilience as we work together to contain the spread of the virus.”

*Mass-ALA will continue to keep you informed on Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Stay tuned for more updates.*

*\*The information provided in this COVID 19 update is solely for general informational purposes to assist in understanding the evolving guidance regarding the current COVID 19 public health threat. It is not intended to be a primary public health or medical resource, but is provided as a clearinghouse for or compilation of various guidance issued by official and related sources.*

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